

Application No.: 09/628,880  
Filed: July 31, 2000  
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Confirmation No.: 4970

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of enabling information associations, said method being performed in conjunction with at least one client system and at least one server system, said method comprising the steps of:

in a first accessing step, accessing, at said client system, at least one document, said document containing informational content and having an associated address for use in accessing said informational content,

wherein said first accessing step includes accessing said informational content using said address, said informational content including parsable data;

in a parsing step, parsing, on one of said client system and said server system, said parsable data included in said informational content contained within a document to identify a number of objects included in said document;

in an a second accessing step, accessing, from at least one database, information related to those of said identified objects included in said document for which related information is available;

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in a first displaying step, displaying, on a display of said client system, at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said identified objects for which related information is available;

in a detecting step, detecting, on said client system, a selection, by a user, of one of said objects displayed on said display ~~by a user~~; and

in a second displaying step, displaying, on said display, information from said at least one database related to said selected one of said objects.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first displaying step comprises displaying said document including said objects, and providing visual indications to said user of at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting an operation in which said document is being loaded by an application program; and

wherein said second accessing step comprises comparing said objects within said document with entries in said at least one

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database, said second accessing step being performed in response to said detecting of said operation in which said document is being loaded by said application program.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said second accessing step further comprises accessing, from said at least one database, information related to at least one of said objects within said document in the event that said at least one of said objects within said document matches at least one of said entries in said at least one database.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document by said application program comprises downloading of said document onto said client system using a browser program.

6. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document into said application program comprises loading said document into a word processor program.

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7. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document into said application program comprises loading said document into an email program.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said information from said at least one database related to said selected one of said objects comprises at least one indication of at least one related resource, and further comprising:

detecting a selection of said indication of said at least one related resource by said user; and

outputting content associated with said at least one related resource in response to said detecting said selection of said indication of said at least one related resource.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one indication of said at least one related resource comprises at least one uniform resource locator associated with said at least one related resource.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one related resource from said at least one database comprises streaming audio information.

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11. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one related resource from said at least one database comprises streaming video information.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

in a monitoring step, monitoring user activities on said at least one client system, said user activities indicating levels of interest of at least one user of said at least one client system in said objects included in said document;

determining at least one rating of at least one of said document, said objects, and said information related to said objects in response to said monitoring of said user activities on said at least one client system; and

storing said at least one rating in association with at least one of said at least one user, said document, said objects, and said information related to said objects, wherein said at least one rating can be applied to future requests for information related to said objects.

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13. (currently amended) A computer program product including a computer readable medium, said computer readable medium having program code stored thereon, said program code comprising:

first program code for accessing, at at least one client system, at least one document, said document containing informational content and having an associated address for use in accessing said informational content,

wherein said first program code for accessing at least one document includes program code for accessing said informational content using said address, said informational content including parsable data;

program code for parsing, on one of said at least one client system and at least one server system, said parsable data included in said informational content contained within a document to identify a number of objects included in said document;

second program code for accessing, from at least one database, information related to those of said identified objects included in said document for which related information is available;

first program code for displaying, on a display of said client system, at least a ~~portion~~ some of those of said identified objects for which related information is available;

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program code for detecting, on said client system, a selection, by a user, of one of said objects displayed on said display ~~by a user~~; and

second program code for displaying, on said display, information from said at least one database related to said selected one of said objects.

14. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said first program code for displaying comprises displaying said document including said objects, and providing visual indications to said user of at least ~~a portion~~ some of those of said objects for which related information is available.

15. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising:

program code for detecting an operation in which said document is being loaded by an application program;

wherein said second program code for accessing comprises comparing said objects within said document with entries in said at least one database, said second program code for accessing being executed in response to an execution of said program code

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for detecting said operation in which said document is being loaded by said application program.

16. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said second program code for accessing further comprises program code for accessing, from said at least one database, information related to at least one of said objects within said document in the event that said at least one of said objects within said document matches at least one of said entries in said at least one database.

17. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting downloading of said document onto said client system through a browser program.

18. (original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting loading of said document into a word processor.

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19. (original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting loading of said document into an email program.

20. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said information from said at least one database related to said selected one of said objects comprises at least one indication of at least one related resource, and further comprising:

program code for detecting a selection of said indication of said at least one related resource by said user; and

program code for outputting content associated with said at least one related resource in response to said program code for detecting said selection of said indication of said at least one related resource.

21. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said at least one indication of said at least one resource comprises at least one uniform resource locator associated with said at least one related resource.

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22. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said related resource from said at least one database comprises streaming audio information.

23. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said related resource from said at least one database comprises streaming video information.

24. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising:

program code for monitoring user activities on said at least one client system, said user activities indicating levels of interest of at least one user of said at least one client system in said objects included in said document;

program code for determining at least one rating of at least one of said document, said objects, and said information related to said objects in response to said monitoring of said user activities on said at least one client system; and

program code for storing said at least one rating in association with at least one of said at least one user, said document, said objects, and said information related to said

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objects, wherein said at least one rating can be applied to future requests for information related to said objects.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A system for enabling information associations, comprising:

at least one client system, said client system including a display;

at least one processor coupled to at least one memory; and

an information association utility loaded in said at least one memory and executable on said at least one processor, said information association utility operable to:

to access at least one document, said document containing informational content and having an associated address for use in accessing said informational content, said information association utility being further operable to access said informational content using said address, said informational content including parsable data;

to parse said parsable data included in said informational content contained within a document to identify a number of objects included in said document;

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to access, from at least one database, information related to those of said identified objects included in said document for which related information is available;

to display, on said display, at least a ~~portion~~<sup>some</sup> of those of said identified objects for which related information is available;

to detect a selection, by a user, of one of said objects displayed on said display ~~by a user~~; and

to display, on said display, information from said at least one database related to said selected one of said objects.

27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of said objects comprise respective metadata.

29. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein at least some of said objects comprise respective metadata.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein at least some of said objects comprise respective metadata.

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31. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further including determining said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available based upon at least one of user profile information derived from past actions of said user, profile information provided by said user, preferences provided by said user, contextual analysis of said document, and related information associated with at least one of said objects.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein said contextual analysis of said document includes extracting themes contained in at least one of said document and a history of documents recently downloaded onto said client system.

33. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 13 further including program code for determining said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available based upon at least one of user profile information derived from past actions of said user, profile information provided by said user, preferences provided by said user, contextual analysis of said document, and related information associated with at least one of said objects.

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34. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said contextual analysis of said document includes extracting themes contained in at least one of said document and a history of documents recently downloaded onto said client system.

35-36. (canceled)

37. (currently amended) The system of claim 26 wherein said information association utility is further operable to determine said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available based upon at least one of user profile information derived from past actions of said user, profile information provided by said user, preferences provided by said user, contextual analysis of said document, and related information associated with at least one of said objects.

38. (previously presented) The system of claim 37 wherein said contextual analysis of said document includes extracting themes contained in at least one of said document and a history of documents recently downloaded onto said client system.

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39-40. (canceled)

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein at least one of said objects comprises at least one indication of at least one related resource, and wherein said monitoring step includes monitoring said user activities associated with said at least one related resource.

42. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein at least one of said objects comprises at least one indication of at least one related resource, and wherein said program code for monitoring user activities includes program code for monitoring user activities associated with said at least one related resource.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said detecting step includes detecting said selection of said one of said objects displayed on said display by at least one of moving a cursor substantially over said one of said objects and leaving the cursor over said one of said objects for a predetermined amount of time, and clicking on said one of said objects.

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44. (previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13 wherein said program code for detecting a selection of one of said objects displayed on said display by said user includes program code for detecting said selection of said one of said objects by at least one of moving a cursor substantially over said one of said objects and leaving the cursor over said one of said objects for a predetermined amount of time, and clicking on said one of said objects.

45. (previously presented) The system of claim 26 wherein said information association utility is operable to detect said selection of said one of said objects by at least one of moving a cursor substantially over said one of said objects and leaving the cursor over said one of said objects for a predetermined amount of time, and clicking on said one of said objects.

46. (currently amended) A method of enabling information associations on at least one client system, comprising the steps of:

accessing at least one document, said document containing informational content and having an associated address for use in accessing said informational content,

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wherein said accessing at least one document includes  
accessing said informational content using said address, said  
informational content including parsable data;

parsing said parsable data included in said informational  
content contained within a document to identify a number of  
objects included in said document;

accessing, from at least one database, information related to  
those of said identified objects included in said document for  
which related information is available; and

in a first displaying step; displaying, on a display of said  
client system, information accessed from said at least one  
database that is related to at least ~~a portion~~some of those of  
said identified objects for which related information is  
available.

47. (currently amended) The method of claim 46 further including,  
in a second displaying step, displaying, on said display, said at  
least ~~a portion~~some of those of said objects for which related  
information is available.

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48. (previously presented) The method of claim 47 wherein said second displaying step includes displaying, on said display, said document including said objects in said document.

49. (currently amended) The method of claim 48 wherein said second displaying step includes providing visual indications of said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects included in said document for which related information is available.

50. (currently amended) The method of claim 49 wherein said visual indications include at least one of boldfacing, underlining, color-coding, and changing at least one of a format, font, and style of said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects included in said document for which related information is available.

51. (currently amended) The method of claim 46 further including determining said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available based upon at least one of user profile information derived from past actions of said user, profile information provided by said user, preferences

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provided by said user, contextual analysis of said document, and related information associated with at least one of said objects.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 wherein said contextual analysis of said document includes extracting themes contained in at least one of said document and a history of documents recently downloaded onto said client system.

53. (currently amended) A system for enabling information associations, comprising:

at least one client system including at least one display,

at least one processor coupled to at least one memory; and

an information association utility loaded in said memory and executable on said processor, said information association utility being operable to:

to access at least one document, said document containing informational content and having an associated address for use in accessing said informational content, said information association utility being further operable to access said informational content using said address, said informational content including parsable data;

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to parse said parsable data included in said informational content contained within a document to identify a number of objects included in said document;

to access, from at least one database, information related to those of said identified objects included in said document for which related information is available; and

to display, on said display, information accessed from said at least one database that is related to at least a portion of some of those of said objects for which related information is available.

54. (currently amended) The system of claim 53 wherein said information association utility is operable to display, on said display, said at least a portion of some of those of said objects for which related information is available.

55. (previously presented) The system of claim 54 wherein said information association utility is operable to display, on said display, said document including said objects in said document.

56. (currently amended) The system of claim 55 wherein said information association utility is operable to provide, on said display, visual indications of said at least a portion of some of

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those of said objects included in said document for which related information is available.

57. (currently amended) The system of claim 56 wherein said visual indications include at least one of boldfacing, underlining, color-coding, and changing at least one of a format, font, and style of said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects in said document for which related information is available.

58. (currently amended) The system of claim 53 wherein said information association utility is further operable to determine said at least a ~~portion~~some of those of said objects for which related information is available based upon at least one of user profile information derived from past actions of said user, profile information provided by said user, preferences provided by said user, contextual analysis of said document, and related information associated with at least one of said objects.

59. (previously presented) The system of claim 58 wherein said contextual analysis of said document includes extracting themes

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contained in at least one of said document and a history of documents recently downloaded onto said client system.

60. (withdrawn) A method of enabling information associations on at least one client system, comprising the steps of:

loading at least one document on said at least one client system, said document including a number of objects;

monitoring activities of at least one user of said at least one client system, said activities indicating levels of interest of said at least one user in said objects included in said document;

determining at least one rating of at least one of said document, said objects, and information related to said objects in response to said monitoring of said activities of said at least one user of said at least one client system; and

storing said at least one rating in association with at least one of said at least one user, said document, said objects, and said information related to said objects,

whereby said at least one rating can be applied to future requests for information related to said objects by said at least one user of said at least one client system.

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61. (withdrawn) A system for enabling information associations, comprising:

at least one client system;

at least one memory; and

at least one processor operative to execute program code out of said at least one memory, said program code being operative to:

load at least one document on said at least one client system, said document including a number of objects;

monitor activities of at least one user of said at least one client system, said activities indicating levels of interest of said at least one user in said objects included in said document;

determine at least one rating of at least one of said document, said objects, and information related to said objects in response to monitoring of said activities of said at least one user of said at least one client system; and

store, in said at least one memory, said at least one rating in association with at least one of said at least one user, said document, said objects, and said information related to said objects,

whereby said at least one rating can be applied to future requests for information related to said objects by said at least one user of said at least one client system.

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